

NEW YORK HERALD.

JAMES GORDON BENNETT,
EDITOR AND PROPRIETOR.

OFFICE N. W. CORNER OF FULTON AND NASSAU STS.

Volume XXXI. No. 19

AMUSEMENTS THIS EVENING.

BROADWAY THEATRE, Broadway.—SOLUS SINGING.

LUIGI RUSCONI'S NEW YORK THEATRE, No. 726
AND 728 BROADWAY.—THE SCHOOL FOR SCANDAL.WOOD'S THEATRE, Broadway, opposite the St. Nicholas
Hotel.—THE BALLOON WEDDING.ACADEMY OF MUSIC, Irving Place.—THEATRE FRAN-
CAIS—LA FIANCÉE.TONY PATON'S OPERA HOUSE, 201 Bowery.—SING-
ING, DANCING, BURLESQUE, &c.—THE JEALOUS WIFE.GEORGE CHRISTIE'S MINSTRELS.—THE OLD SCHOOL-
HOUSE, BROADWAY, MUSICAL COMEDY, &c., at the Fifth
Avenue Opera House, Nos. 2 and 4 West Twenty-fourth st.SAN FRANCISCO MINSTRELS, 53 Broadway, opposite
Metropolitan Hotel.—BURLESQUE, DANCING, &c.—
SEAN NECK ACE.BRYANT MINSTRELS, Mechanic Hall, 42 Broad-
way.—DAN BRYANT'S NEW STUMP SPEECH.—NABO COME-
GATION, BURLINGTON, &c.—LAUGHING GAMES.NEW YORK MUSEUM OF ANATOMY, 63 Broadway.—
Open from 10 A. M. till 5 P. M.

BROOKLYN ATHLETIC CLUB.—CAMPELLO'S MINSTRELS.

WITH SUPPLEMENT.

New York, Friday, January 19, 1866.

THE NEWS.

IMPORTANT FROM MEXICO.

The announcement comes from New Orleans that the armed force from Texas which captured from the Mexican imperials the town of Bagdad, on the Rio Grande, as described in yesterday's Herald, consisted chiefly of the One Hundred and Eighteenth United States colored infantry, under Colonel Davis. The capture was effected on the morning of the 5th inst., and it is said that the negroes immediately after commenced plundering the place and robbing the citizens, shooting those who refused to deliver their money. Three hundred imperials were made prisoners, about half of whom joined the republican service and were detailed to garrison the town, the captors immediately disappearing. The American General Crawford was in command of it, and General Escobedo was on his way. The accounts indicate that the former was about starting on another expedition. General Weitzel, at the request of Escobedo, sent two hundred men from Brownsville, Texas, to Bagdad to preserve order. The shelling of the town by a French vessel, which was kept up during the 6th inst., did not result in relaxing in the slightest degree the hold upon it of the new garrison.

By way of Vera Cruz we have received intelligence of republican successes of the most important character. Toluca, the ancient capital of Mexico, a fine city of twelve thousand inhabitants, has been captured by the Juaristas under Munoz, and so critical is the emergency that Marshal Ramirez, with all the imperial troops at hand, had started from Mexico city to attempt to retake the position. There is, further, a rumor, apparently well founded, that a couple of valuable silver mines have fallen into the hands of the Juaristas. The fighting in the interior, of which we have received details, appears not to have resulted so favorably for the republicans, but all accounts unite on the point that the position of Maximilian is a most critical one. Arising out of the disturbed state of affairs, an attempt had been made to assassinate the imperial Minister of War, but the plot failed, and the would-be assassins were arrested.

President Johnson's message had been received in Mexico city, as in France, with a feeling of intense relief that war was not to be immediately made upon the imperial government. The Vera Cruz papers, however, regard the outbreak of hostilities between the United States and France as inevitable, and only postponed for a time.

CONGRESS.

The proceedings of Congress yesterday were both interesting and important. In the Senate the memorial of the Chamber of Commerce of this city in favor of taking part in the Paris Universal Exhibition was presented and referred. Resolutions were adopted for the distribution among the different States of five hundred copies of Madison's works published by authority of Congress, and instructing the Printing Committee to report the amount of money paid to the Washington newspapers for advertising, and the law under which disbursed. The Territorial Committee reported in favor of the admission of Colorado as a State. A resolution authorizing the issuance of American registers to certain British built vessels owned by American citizens was introduced and referred to the Committee on Commerce. The same committee reported without amendment the bill extending the time for the withdrawal of goods from bonded warehouses and authorizing the construction of a telegraph between this city and the West Indies. A bill, similar to that passed in the case of the widow of John Quincy Adams, giving to the widow of President Lincoln the franking privilege during her life, was introduced by Mr. Sumner, read three times, and passed unanimously. The bill extending the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau was called up by Senator Trumbull, who offered an amendment to it limiting to three years, instead of for life, the title of the freedmen to lands on which they were located by General Sherman, after which the matter was laid over. The remainder of the session was occupied in debate on the resolution favoring the establishment of provisional governments for the Southern States. Mr. Wade delivering a long and able speech in favor of it, and in reply to the address of Mr. Douglas on the same subject. Mr. Sumner, Mr. Newcomb, of Oregon, and Mr. Stewart, republican of Nevada, also spoke, in opposition to the resolution. A short executive session was held, during which a number of additional Presidential nominations were confirmed, including that of General Van Valkenburg, of this State, as Minister to Japan.

The proceedings of the House of Representatives were of a more decidedly important character than those of the Senate, including the passage of the District of Columbia negro suffrage bill. A bill extending the time within which States may accept the provisions of the act donating public lands for educational purposes and allowing the lately rebellious States to avail themselves of its benefits was reported from the Agricultural Committee. The bill enlarging the powers of the Freedmen's Bureau was made the special order for Tuesday next, and the Uniform Bankruptcy bill was not down for consideration on the 20th inst. A preliminary and resolution declaring that American vessels which during the rebellion took form as privateers should never again be allowed American papers were introduced and referred to the Committee on Commerce. A resolution calling on the Secretary of the Treasury for a statement of the number of such vessels which have already had their American registers restored to them was adopted. The bill giving to the negroes of the District of Columbia the privilege of voting was then taken up, and several members spoke for and against it. Efforts to amend it by a property restriction and to recommend that it be voted down, and the bill was finally passed, without qualification of any kind, by a vote of one hundred and sixteen yeas to fifty-four nays. Applause from the galleries followed the announcement of its passage, and the House immediately after retired.

THE LEGISLATURE.

A large number of matters were under consideration in the State Senate yesterday; but the great majority of them are of interest to different localities. Favorable reports were made from committees on the Metropolitan Health bill and the bill relating to contracts by the Mayor and Common Council of this city. Nations were given of bills for an underground railway road and to regulate taxes on lands taken for drainage purposes. Two or three other bills were passed, and several of the same character were introduced. In the Assembly several bills were reported from committees and recommissioned, including the authorizing our City Comptroller to issue fifty thousand dollars worth of Green water stock, providing for the survey of the Hudson river, and making appropriations for the maintenance of the canal. Notice was given of a number of new measures, among which were bills to alter the map of this city, to incorporate the New York Mutual Gaslight Company, for a railroad in 1870 and other matters, and authorizing the Second Avenue Company to extend their track through Mott and Eighth streets.

and avenue A to Ninety-sixth street. The introductions were also numerous, including bills to amend the surrogate act, to reduce the fees of surrogates, to amend the Militia and Militia Pilot laws, to provide for the discharge of extra Quarantine liabilities incurred for the prevention of cholera, for a railroad in Christopher and other streets, and regulating fare on the Eighth Avenue road. A resolution was offered and laid over directing the Supervisors of this county to render within twenty days a full account of all the items and the total amount of the expenditures so far for our new Court House.

MISCELLANEOUS.

The steamship Montezuma arrived at this port yesterday, with advice from Kingston, Jamaica, to January 6. No further disturbances had occurred on the island; but over one hundred and fifty prisoners were still held for trial, and the arrests of "rebels" had not yet ceased. Sir Henry Stokes, appointed to supersede Governor Eyre, had not arrived at his post of duty when the steamer left. A despatch from W. Cardwell, British Secretary of State for the Colonies, which had been laid before the local Assembly, seemed to give unqualified approval to the measures taken by Governor Eyre for the suppression of the "revolt."

An account of the litigation in the courts of Ecuador in the case of the American steamer Washington, employed in river navigation in that republic, and commanded by Captain Gano, son of the United States Consul at Guayaquil, is given in our correspondence from that place. The Washington, while engaged in legitimate trade, was captured by a band of outlaws, who on her receipt by a vessel of the republic, were dignified with the title of revolutionists, and then, with the addition of allegations that her captain was ejected through the collusion of her commander, a pretense was established for her forfeiture to government, and she was confiscated. The steamer is valued at sixty thousand dollars, and Captain Gano instituted proceedings for her recovery in one of the lower courts, which decided against him. He then carried his case to the Supreme Court, the decision of which had not been rendered at the date of our accounts; but it was expected to be the same as that of the tribunal below. Our correspondent thinks the occasional visit of a United States cruiser would have a wholesome effect in inspiring respect on the part of the Ecuadorians for the rights of our countrymen.

Governor Pierpont, of Virginia, yesterday sent to the Legislature of that State, with his endorsement, a memorial of the New York and Virginia Steamship Company asking compensation for two of their vessels, valued at three hundred thousand dollars, seized by the rebels at a Richmond wharf in the early part of the late war.

The Legislature of North Carolina assembled yesterday, at the call of Governor Worth. It is expected that the Governor's message will be submitted to-day.

Hop John Sherman was yesterday re-elected United States Senator from Ohio by the Legislature of that State, by a vote of ninety-four to forty-one.

The Board of Councilmen met yesterday and transacted a large amount of routine business. An ordinance was presented to regulate the running of the city railroad cars, requiring the drivers to reduce the speed of their horses to a walk as they approach every intersection, and that a violation of the act shall be punished by a fine of from ten to fifty dollars. It was referred to the Committee on Railroads. A committee was appointed to make the necessary preparations for the celebration of Washington's Birthday. The Comptroller was requested to send to the Board a statement of all the real estate and other property owned by the city, to whom it is rented and the most of collecting the rent. The Board concurred with the Aldermen in directing the Comptroller to report the amount due to the laborers on the street pavement contract up to the date of his appointment; also in requesting the members of Congress from this city to urge the payment by the national government of the amount expended in the years 1861 and 1862 by the Union Defense Committee in furnishing troops with arms and ammunition. A resolution in favor of donating two thousand dollars to a Catholic Industrial School in Forty-second street, gave rise to an interesting debate. Mr. Phillips said it was time for the Common Council to stop voting away the money of the taxpayers to support sectarian institutions. The resolution was lost.

In the United States Commissioner's office yesterday, before Commissioner Stillwell, there was a further adjournment till Saturday of the case of Captain Peabody, of the American ship Neptune, charged with having ill-treated seamen on board that vessel while on the voyage from Liverpool to New York.

Judge Learned has given his opinion in the case of Henry W. Foster against the Beneficial Real Estate Company. Plaintiff claimed to be a tenant in common with the defendants on their property in Vanogah county, Pennsylvania, and an injunction was placed upon the company as to the division of a large sum of money, the proceeds of oil, among the stockholders. The right of the plaintiff was denied, and the injunction was dissolved.

The case of Isabella Ayres against Philip Ayres, on a motion to change the place of trial, was yesterday decided by Judge Robertson, and the whole matter was sent before a referee.

The Tax Commissioner's case came up again yesterday in the Supreme Court, before Judge J. P. Barard. A motion was made for the issuing of a mandamus to compel the Comptroller to pay the salaries for the month of October, 1865. It was contended on the part of the defendants that the Comptroller having paid out that money illegally, he could not now be held accountable therefor. The Judge reserved his decision.

It is not generally known that citizens while sitting in court, and not engaged as witnesses or otherwise in a cause, are liable to be peremptorily called on a jury in the event of a lack of jurors. This fact was exemplified yesterday in a case before Judge Balcan, in Part 2 of the Supreme Court, when the panel was deficient. Three gentlemen present at the time were, by order of the Court, called to the jury box and sworn by the clerk for that particular case.

The McCabe libel suit was brought to a close yesterday by Judge Jones ordering a non-suit against the plaintiff, on the ground that the supposed libel came under the class of privileged communications. The decision is of some importance, being on a point never before adjudicated in this country, and establishing the right of newspapers to publish a fair and correct account of *ex parte* proceedings, without being obliged to establish the truth of the charges involved.

The trial of Jose Gonzalez y Fernandez for the murder of Jose Garcia Otero, the 22d of November last, in the Kings county Court of Guy and Terminus. The Court opened at ten o'clock A. M., when the defense put in their testimony; but there seemed to be nothing tangible in it, as the counsel did not produce anything contradicting the main evidence of the prosecution. The closing address of the District Attorney occupied two hours and a half. In his delivery Judge Gilbert made a brief charge to the jury, when, at a quarter past three o'clock P. M., they retired to deliberate on their verdict. They were out two hours, and on returning to the court room rendered a verdict of guilty against the prisoner, who received it unmoved, and was remanded for sentence. The trial of Pelletier, the alleged accomplice of Gonzalez, will commence to-day.

The Senate of the Fenian Brotherhood met yesterday to legislate for their division. A Congress is talked of, and a movement on their own account is contemplated. The O'Mahony division have derived courage and cheer from Stephens' endorsement, and they are collecting and developing a great power. Both parties are receiving continual endorsement and remittances from the working brethren. In our Supplement sheet we give a brief account of the case of the two sides.

A formal despatch states that General Sherman's presence of messages (on Friday) conveyed to England had caused fear of another Canadian invasion, and stirred up the provinces to armed excitement and war. The attendance at the ponds, both in this city and Brooklyn, was yesterday, as on the day previous, large, and the devotees of skating enjoyed themselves largely. Towards evening the thaw commenced to take effect, and it is much to be feared that the ice will come down this morning.

The auction sale of the celebrated Hunter Gallery commenced on Wednesday evening, and was continued last night, at No. 545 Broadway, by Messrs. Leides & Miner, auctioneers. One hundred and twenty-two original works of the old masters were sold, and the proceeds, so far, have been eleven thousand dollars. The rights of the remainder of the collection will be disposed of to-morrow.

The first annual exhibition of the Paris National Club was inaugurated last evening at the Derby Gallery, on Broadway. The attendance was large, and the works of art, including and very in number—were much admired by all present.

A grand concert was given from the Capitol Sunday afternoon at New York and Brooklyn was held yesterday.

afternoon and evening at Calvary church, in Twenty-third street. No definite action of any kind was taken; but there was very warm discussion at both sessions on the subject of a Sunday School union. The Convention adjourned to meet on Thursday next, at two o'clock in the afternoon, at the Tabernacle Baptist church.

Last evening Bishop Simpson delivered an interesting lecture in St. Paul's Methodist Episcopal church, on Fourth avenue, his subject being "New York as a Mission Field." He indicated the means whereby large cities should be evangelized, such as the study of the population, the erecting of large and commodious churches, and the active employment of Christian men and women.

The sixty-seventh annual report of the Trustees of the Fire Department Fund of this city, a paper of much interest to firemen and firemen's widows and orphans, is given in our Supplement of this morning. The receipts for the year 1865 were \$54,651 25, and the disbursements \$54,364 48, leaving a balance at present in the National Butchers' and Drovers' Bank of four hundred and ninety-eight dollars. The permanent fund, remains untouched, over seventy-three thousand dollars of it being invested in bonds and mortgages, and twenty-six thousand in government securities.

Charles and Lewis Lindsay were arrested in this city yesterday and sent to Newark, N. J., for examination on charge of having been concerned in the robbery, on the 9th of last month, of nine thousand dollars worth of jewelry from the establishment of Baldwin & Co., in the latter place.

The annual election of officers of the New York Prison Association took place yesterday at No. 12 Centre street. The claim of Minnesota to being the most favorable region for the residence of persons with pulmonary affections having been advanced in a very able manner by our St. Paul correspondent in his previous letters, he devotes himself in the one which we publish this morning to showing the great advantages which it offers to emigrants of all classes, especially those intending to engage in agricultural pursuits, and gives considerable important information regarding the proper season and the best manner in which to effect their settlement. Of the fifty-four millions of acres of land which the State contains, nearly twenty millions are uncultivated and open to settlers under the provisions of the national Homestead law, and farms in good localities and with excellent soil can therefore be secured at very low figures. Though St. Paul is about three hundred miles farther north than New York, the winter there has been very moderate, and while we were having our ten degrees below zero, on the 8th inst., with the Minnesotians the mercury stood about twenty degrees above.

The Lowell (Mass.) papers state that the loss by the fire in that city on the morning of the 17th instant was valued at over a million dollars. The property was insured for two hundred and seventeen thousand five hundred dollars, ninety one thousand of which is in New York offices.

Mr. E. A. Sothorn, the actor, better known as Lord Dunsany, has lately had a verdict for two hundred and fifty dollars damages rendered against him, in the Court of Queen's Bench, London, in a suit brought by the lessee of the Prince of Wales theatre. The action was brought for failure on the part of Mr. Sothorn to comply with his engagement to act in plaintiff's theatre, and the damages were laid at two thousand pounds. Sickiness was pleaded by defendant as the justification of his breach of contract. A report of the testimony and proceedings in the case, which are of an amusing and entertaining character, appears in this morning's Herald.

Burtus Christie, Jr., the only son of the late celebrated Boston lawyer of that name, died on the 16th inst., at Dedham, Massachusetts, from the effects of wounds received in the late war.

The stock market was quiet, firm and closed steady, but dull, yesterday. Governments were inactive. Gold weakened at the close to 138 1/2.

The depression in gold occasioned a corresponding feeling in business circles yesterday, and in some kinds of domestic produce prices ruled decidedly in favor of the purchaser. Foreign goods were generally quiet. Groceries were quiet, but steady. Cotton was steady. Petroleum was heavy and lower. On Chicago flour was lower. Wheat was nominally a trifle lower for common grades. Prime was steady. Corn was weaker. Pork was irregular and closed lower. Lard was heavy. Whiskey was dull but steady.

The President's duty—General Grant and Secretary Stanton.

National convulsions, unfortunately, seldom end in the reformation of the abuses in which they began. Behind the patriot reformer comes a revolutionist of the worst type. Behind Bailey, the President of the National Assembly, came Robespierre, who sent Bailey to the guillotine. Behind Lafayette, with his love of law and justice, came Danton and Marat, the incarnations of revengeful cruelty and diabolical hate. Behind the Parliament of Paris, demanding the convocation of the States General, came the Committee of Public Safety and proscription. It is the same always when a national necessity and justice are forgotten in a mere savage, partisan spirit; when extremists—the most violent men of the community—get control by means of their appeals to popular passion, and when the great movement of the people is urged beyond its natural, proper object, and made to perform the selfish purposes of ambitious politicians. It is this that has made the world afraid of revolutions, and disposed men to submit for ages to unjust laws and kings rather than to invoke that most fearful tyranny which tramples a people down in the name of freedom.

We stand in danger of having our great war degenerate into just such a tyranny. We have gained all its legitimate objects. We have purged the national system of the gigantic evil which made the war necessary. And now the country wants peace and rest—an opportunity to recuperate—to repair its damages and pay the bills. But the violent elements are not satisfied. The war has not yet accomplished their objects, and they protest against peace. Disorder has not become anarchy, and they say it has done nothing. It has not carried them high enough, and there must be other victims; and, full of wild fanatical fury, drunken with their passions, they clamor in Congress, in the press and in the Cabinet, against the restoration of order, against the reconstruction of the Southern States, against all the acts and propositions of the wisest men who can see that it is a patriotic duty to be moderate and to have real peace without delay.

Mr. Stanton is now the head of this clamor. He, a member of that council whose only duty and province is to second the President and to assist the national Executive in the discharge of his duties, is the President's most violent opponent on the great question of the time. His opposition is just now particularly shown in animosity to General Grant, whose object it is that he is carrying out the President's recommendations, and who is doing so for the radicals. We know very well what Mr. Stanton will do in the effort to ruin a general. The country has felt it in the thousands of soldiers suddenly slain in squandered millions of money, in a war prolonged to four years that might have been ended in two. All that was the result of Secretary Stanton's quarrels with generals and his efforts to crush those with whom he quarrelled. His endeavors to destroy General McClellan cost the country its first magnificent army, and stifled the campaign by which Richmond could have been taken in 1862; thereby it let the enemy into Maryland, and built the then feeble confederacy up into a great power, only to be put down by the march of a dozen armies and the accumulation of our great debt. A quarter of a million wasted lives and the larger part of the national debt are the monuments of Mr. Stanton's hatred to

one general; and now we hear that his hatred becomes particularly active against another.

Stanton's dislike to Grant is not new. It was heard of while Grant was still in the West; and then Stanton's special agent, Dana, went with Grant's army, ostensibly an Assistant Secretary of War—in fact, a spy, commissioned purely and simply to watch Grant. Grant could stand the watching, and went on heedless of it, pounding away at the enemy and establishing that grand name with the people which now puts him in reality out of the reach of such persons. Still the attempts against him are now revived, because he is in the way; because with such an honest, simple-minded patriot at his head the army cannot be used as a piece of the radical machinery to keep the South in its present condition.

It cannot happen better for the country than that one radical fight should be made just here, so that the issue, as it goes to the people, may be simply Stanton or Grant. Grant's record is familiar to all; Stanton's is notoriety only so. To some extent the characters of the men are typical of the parties into which the country is dividing on reconstruction; and the President can never be more sure of his position than in breaking with his bullying Secretary on this point. Stanton and Grant cannot get on together, and Stanton must go. The President should dismiss him boldly and at once, just as General Jackson did when a secretary opposed his policy. His duty to the country requires it. He is the Executive. It is in accordance with his views that the behests of the constitution should be executed, and the country never required more than now that he should be unembarrassed in his action.

Equal Rights—The New Naturalization Bill Before Congress.

Under the naturalization laws of Congress as they now stand, framed according to the constitution as it was, in support of slavery, the term "white" or "free white persons" frequently occurs, making discriminations against the black race. Under "the constitution as it is," with the incorporation of the amendment sweeping off the institution of African slavery, a bill has been introduced into Congress recognizing the abolition of all these distinctions of race and color, so that hereafter all persons, white, mixed or black, born in the United States or under their jurisdiction, are declared citizens, and entitled to all the rights and privileges of citizens of the United States.

This is a long stride toward the settlement of this whole question of the civil and political rights of the African race in all the States upon a footing of equality. The regulation of the right of suffrage belongs to the several States; and thus we find the laws upon the subject different in nearly every State from any of the others. In most of the States we find the blacks wholly excluded from the ballot box, in others admitted under a special property qualification, as in New York, and in only a few without discrimination, as in Massachusetts.

But as all these exclusions and discriminations against the blacks grew out of and depended upon the recognition of African slavery in the federal constitution, they all cease to possess any constitutional validity with the institution of slavery abolished and prohibited in the supreme law. As that law now stands our black population have become a portion of the people of the United States, named as the sovereign body politic of the constitution. Depending upon the constitution alone for our information in reference to the races of this country, we cannot determine whether there are or are not any "persons" of the African race among us, so careful were the founders of the government, even in recognizing African slavery, to hide it from the world, and to conform to their Declaration of Independence that "all men are created equal." "The fathers" shaped their organic law to meet the expected contingency of the abolition of slavery in a short time, and they left the constitution, as far as possible, adapted to this event.

Among other provisions looking in this direction they ordained that the "citizens of each State shall be entitled to all the privileges and immunities of citizens in the several States," and that "the United States shall guarantee to each State a republican form of government." Under the authority of this provision President Johnson has pursued his Southern policy of restoration, and under the same authority, together with the power to be the judges of the elections and qualifications of their own members, the two houses of Congress are engaged in their work of reconstruction. The leading Northern radicals contend that slavery being abolished, a Southern State government which excludes the emancipated blacks from the civil and political rights of the whites is not republican in form, but an anti-republican oligarchy. Very well. If you have the power why not apply the remedy in a general law upon the subject, applying to all the States—no Connecticut and Wisconsin as well as to Virginia and South Carolina? Cannot this thing be done under this new constitutional amendment, which puts whites and blacks upon the same political level? Is not the "republican form of government" to this extent guaranteed which the United States is bound to guarantee to each State?

Why not, then, admit the excluded States into Congress without further delay beyond the passage of a general law defining the civil and political rights of the blacks, as citizens, in all the States, leaving the final decision of the question to the Supreme Court upon the first contested case—the April Connecticut election? The new naturalization bill is a good step in this direction. But if the majority of the two houses are intent upon Southern restoration, and not upon Southern exclusion for mere party purposes, they may soon apply all political legislation to the radicals. We know very well what Mr. Stanton will do in the effort to ruin a general. The country has felt it in the thousands of soldiers suddenly slain in squandered millions of money, in a war prolonged to four years that might have been ended in two. All that was the result of Secretary Stanton's quarrels with generals and his efforts to crush those with whom he quarrelled. His endeavors to destroy General McClellan cost the country its first magnificent army, and stifled the campaign by which Richmond could have been taken in 1862; thereby it let the enemy into Maryland, and built the then feeble confederacy up into a great power, only to be put down by the march of a dozen armies and the accumulation of our great debt. A quarter of a million wasted lives and the larger part of the national debt are the monuments of Mr. Stanton's hatred to

one general; and now we hear that his hatred becomes particularly active against another. Stanton's dislike to Grant is not new. It was heard of while Grant was still in the West; and then Stanton's special agent, Dana, went with Grant's army, ostensibly an Assistant Secretary of War—in fact, a spy, commissioned purely and simply to watch Grant. Grant could stand the watching, and went on heedless of it, pounding away at the enemy and establishing that grand name with the people which now puts him in reality out of the reach of such persons. Still the attempts against him are now revived, because he is in the way; because with such an honest, simple-minded patriot at his head the army cannot be used as a piece of the radical machinery to keep the South in its present condition. It cannot happen better for the country than that one radical fight should be made just here, so that the issue, as it goes to the people, may be simply Stanton or Grant. Grant's record is familiar to all; Stanton's is notoriety only so. To some extent the characters of the men are typical of the parties into which the country is dividing on reconstruction; and the President can never be more sure of his position than in breaking with his bullying Secretary on this point. Stanton and Grant cannot get on together, and Stanton must go. The President should dismiss him boldly and at once, just as General Jackson did when a secretary opposed his policy. His duty to the country requires it. He is the Executive. It is in accordance with his views that the behests of the constitution should be executed, and the country never required more than now that he should be unembarrassed in his action.

and they thought they might as well do a little filibustering too; so they made a dash at Bagdad, scared the soldiers of Maximilian and carried off a goodly share of booty. They had probably read the statement of M. Druyn de Lhuys to Mr. Bigelow the other day, that if we wanted to settle any difficulty in Mexico we must make our applications to Mexico and not to France, and they were just acting on this diplomatic suggestion.

But, joking apart, there is no danger, of course, that this escapade on the Rio Grande will complicate our government with France. The fact is well known, we presume, that there is abundance of the filibustering element to be found in the country at present, and that Mexico is a very tempting spot just now for the application of filibustering tendencies. It was but the other day that an offer was made to the Mexican Consul at San Francisco of two regiments, armed and equipped, to enter the service of the liberal cause whenever and wherever the Consul pleased to send them. These were, no doubt, composed chiefly of retired rebel soldiers. There is hardly a vessel leaving these ports for Chile or Peru that does not carry a few Northern men and a good many Southerners to those countries, with the intention of taking up arms there. They may go to those localities, just as they cross into Mexico, as emigrants, and the government has no power to prevent them.

The French Journal des Debats, remarking the other day on the correspondence between Captain Clouet and General Weitzel, who is in command of the American troops at Matamoros, expressed great fears of a collision between the French and American troops, and said that the situation was not without peril to France, for if it took her ten years to subdue the Mexicans, what would be the consequence if a war with the United States was to ensue? Perhaps these filibusters who attacked Bagdad are trying to furnish a solution to the French editor's ideas.

Folly of the Dominant Party in Congress—An Opposition Healthful.

The overwhelming majority of the republican party in Congress may prove fatal to it. Opposition, which always stimulates cohesion, may be too feeble to keep the republicans united or to restrain them in their destructive radical course. Never did a party occupy a more favorable position for perpetuating its power. It can govern the country fifty years if it chooses, and pursues the right policy. It prosecuted the war to a successful issue, which gives it a strong hold upon the affections of the people and great advantages; it elected the President, and it is all-powerful in Congress. With all this it is losing its hold upon the country, is opposing the President, and is actually in the process of disintegration. Such folly, such an unbusinesslike state of things, would appear to be incredible when we first think of it; but upon reflection we perceive it is in accordance with history and human nature. Whenever a party becomes so overwhelmingly powerful that there is but little opposition all restraint is removed, and it plunges headlong into the wildest and most radical measures. We see this in every-day life. Man is but an animal in this respect. Take away the bridle or curb and he will become restive, wayward and intractable. When the French Convention had alienated all opposition it ran into the most fearful excesses. We might point out numerous other examples in history were it necessary. The end is the same in all cases—that is, creating disgust in the public mind, a reaction, and the disruption of the party.

Had the dominant republican party in Congress found a strong opposition it would not have ventured upon the extreme course it took at the commencement of the session; it would not have assailed the reconstruction policy of Mr. Johnson, but would have clung to the President as its chief and pilot. It would have become its defender, and not assailant. But having nothing else to fight against it made war on him. If this course be pursued it is evident one of two results must follow: either the republican party will be broken up in the struggle and the conservative portion will become the new party of the future, or the President will be driven to form a party for himself out of the democrats and such conservative elements as he may find in the next election. There is no doubt about the sentiment of the country being with him. He would be able to hold his ground till the next elections, and then the existing republican party would be set aside for one more in harmony with the administration. It is to be regretted that parties are not more evenly balanced in Congress. A country is governed best when parties are so balanced. Not only does one hold the other in check, but their contests expose errors and bring out truth more prominently. Opposition is decidedly healthful. We think it was Walpole, who, seeing the necessity of an opposition party for the healthful operations of government, actually created one; and it was called "His Majesty's opposition." There must and will be opposition, from the nature of things, as soon as the elements of the great revolution are passing through outside. It is for the republicans to say—for they have the power now—whether they will be the administration or the opposition party of the future. The President can stand without them and make his own party; but they have the vantage ground, and can hold it if they choose to do so.

GENERAL GRANT IN EUROPE.—The late steamers brought us the comments of the British press on General Grant's report on the war. Both it as a composition and the great military ability of the General are spoken of in high terms of encomium. One journal says it "is about to become as famous as Caesar's Commentaries," and is "eminently important." The London Standard, in a long and able article, is not less complimentary. It says "this system was successful when every other system had failed. His campaign brought the war to an end, whereas every former campaign had left the contest pretty nearly as it stood before. It must be understood, too, that wherever military science appears more conspicuous than brute force, that merit is Grant's also." While this writer seems to dwell deplorably upon the enormous sacrifice of life which was the cost of this success, and speaks of it as Grant's "military arithmetic," he confesses that the General is "entitled to the credit which success confers, and, indeed, terrible though the cost was, it may well be questioned whether an indefinite prolongation of the war would not have cost both parties still more." Such praise is all that could be expected from a journal which

had no sympathy with the Union cause, and which praises, probably, unwillingly.

The views expressed by the British press, now that the war is over and General Grant's report has appeared, we often expressed during the closing events of the war, and before the report was published. We have been long convinced that Grant was the greatest general of the age, and we have no doubt this will be the record of history. While this eminent soldier stands so conspicuously above others, he is really but a true type of his countrymen and of American character, and particularly of the men of the West. Plain, unpretending, simple in manner and taste, but full of practical common sense and vigor of purpose and in action, he is truly a representative man. There were many similar types among the officers of the army, with different modifications of character, but he rose to be the foremost. It only requires a great event, like that of the war just concluded, to bring out the wealth of latent talent we have in this country. The superior lustre of the General-in-Chief partially eclipses other distinguished soldiers; but who can doubt that if we had not our present generals, and in a fresh war should need others, that we should find other Grants, Shermans and Sheridans? The republic is full of latent talent, which every occasion will develop. This fact is now being appreciated in Europe, though somewhat tardily; and we hope it may have the effect of teaching the governments there that a mighty Power has grown up on this side the Atlantic which has the resources to compel justice to be done and to enforce its policy.

THE TUNISIAN AMBASSADORS ABROAD AND THE NEW YORK HERALD.—Our correspondent in Florence, Italy, writing under date of December 19, informs us of the arrival in Leghorn, en route for their homes, a few days previously, of the Tunisian Embassy lately in this country, consisting of General Osman Haschem, Envoy Extraordinary; Lieutenant Colonel Ramiro Gaita, attaché; Chevalier Antoni Conti, secretary and interpreter, and Mr. Perry, Consul General of the United States at Tunis. The readers of the HERALD were kept thoroughly posted in regard to the movements of these distinguished strangers while in the United States, and they will no doubt be pleased to learn that their guests cherish a most lively recollection of the many kindnesses bestowed upon them while here. When our correspondent waited on General Haschem he writes that he was received very cordially, and on rising to leave the General addressed him as follows:—

MESSAGE OF THE TUNISIAN AMBASSADOR TO THE PEOPLE OF THE UNITED STATES.
I wish you to express for me, through the HERALD, my warmest thanks to the people of the United States for the hospitality and kindly interest in which they received and assisted us while we were with them. I am fully convinced that we could not do otherwise, and we shall report to our government our experience, and you may assure your people that they will come back in grateful remembrance of the United States and its people, and will cooperate there in as honorable a manner as his excellency has secured them.

We have before this had occasion to refer to the benefit the people of this country derived from having our special correspondents abroad. They serve not only as mediums, as in the case of the Tunisian ambassadors, for conveying intelligence of much interest to the government as well as to the private citizen, but at the same time they act as intelligent and active representatives of American principles among foreign nations. In fact, we have no doubt the people of the United States would be better and more satisfactorily represented abroad by gentlemen connected with a newspaper institution like that of the New York Herald than by selections for consuls made by the government from among partisans to reward party services. We have established a system of sending representatives of the Herald to those foreign places where established American newspaper correspondents have hitherto been scarcely known, and we are preparing to enlarge our staff of foreign correspondents by despatching to distant countries other gentlemen who have won honorable distinction from their association with American journalism and literature. After some of the new steam lines now in contemplation are established we shall not be surprised to learn that London papers will be indebted to the NEW YORK HERALD for their latest intelligence from Mediterranean countries and other parts of Eastern Europe.

FREE TRADE AND PROTECTION.—THE HUMORS OF THE DAY.—The Tribune and the Post are making a great fuss about the questions of free trade and protection, devoting their columns to lengthy articles and abstract arguments on both sides of the subject. These Rip Van Winkle journalists do not seem to understand that the free trade idea is a thing of the past; that the war has put it altogether out of sight. This country is bound to become the greatest manufacturing country in the world. This fact will be established, if by nothing else, by the very existence of the immense water power in the Southern States, especially in Virginia and the Carolinas, where the cotton fields are at the door of the manufactories. Every bale of cotton raised here will before long be manufactured into fabrics in this country. It will not take many years to accomplish this, and then the proverbial manufacturing power of England will vanish very quickly, and with that power all her greatness as a commercial nation must decline. As far